

A PLACE TO SLEEP



What do all these places have in common?



- 1 A sailing ship in Stockholm, Sweden.
- 2 A decorated inn in Fes, Morocco.
- 3 A haunted castle in Scotland.
- 4 A "loft" in Chicago, U.S.A.
- 5 An old house with a central patio in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 6 A railway carriage in Sydney, Australia.
- 7 The 18th floor of a skyscraper with great views in Tokyo, Japan.



< This logo can give you a clue.

You've guessed it. They're all youth hostels!

Well, what do you know about hostels? And is your information up-to-date? Here are a few questions. See if you can answer them.

- What are Youth Hostels?
- Where are they?
- When and where did they begin?
- Who can use them?
- What is their philosophy about the environment?

Next, read the article opposite, and the one on pages 18 and 19, and check if you're right. Finally - look at the Facts Check on Page 24. Good travelling!

WORD FILE

haunted	A place where people believe there are ghosts.
have in common (v)	To have the same features as another thing.
inn	A small hotel.
loft	The space under the roof in a building - sometimes converted into an apartment.
patio	A terrace.
up-to-date	The most recent information.
youth hostel	A hotel for young people.

railroad car traveling	railway carriage travelling
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Are there any Youth Hostels near you? What do you know about these specific hostels? What facts can you find out about them?



HOSTELS - an inside view

Meet Beatriz Borges



S: Beatriz, can you answer a few questions about your job?

B: Well, I work at Hostelling International in Brasilia. I'm Marketing Director of Hostelling International Brasil, and I'm also a member of the Latin America Regional Committee.

S: So you do a lot of different things?

B: Yes. At local level, I organise the travellers who come to the youth hostel. I make sure they have a really good place to stay on their trip. Then at national level, I'm responsible for developing all the marketing campaigns, the quality programme and the partnership agreements. And then at international level, I introduce the new Hostelling International projects to Latin America, and help to develop them for our continent.

S: That sounds really interesting! Now let's talk about the hostel. What kind of building is it in?

B: We have our own building here in Brasilia. It opened in July 2001. And, of course, like all the buildings in this city, it's modern. It's a beautiful place with 20 rooms and 116 beds.

S: So it's pretty big. What nationalities come to it?

B: All sorts - English people, and French, Germans and Australians are the most common.

S: How long do they usually stay?

B: About three nights, usually.

WORD FILE

advice	An opinion about the best thing to do.
marketing campaign	Activity to test the market for new products, and to promote them.
partnership agreement	A contract to work with other, similar organizations.
quality program	A system to provide a good quality service.
organize (v) program traveler	organise (v) programme traveller



What do you normally do before you go on a trip? What advice about planning a trip would you give to someone?

S: And what do they usually do while they're in Brasilia?

B: Most of them go to visit the Praça dos Três Poderes, and the Metropolitan Cathedral. Many just like to walk around the city. They often go to the Água Mineral National Park, too.

S: What do they want to find out about Brasilia?

B: Why it has so many green places. They like to learn about the city and its architecture. Why the distances are so far! You know, Susan, we say that in Brasilia "the heavens and the land come together".

S: What languages do your visitors usually speak to each other?

B: Most of them speak English. But they are curious about learning some Portuguese, and many of them speak it a little, and understand a bit. They try to speak, and it's nice to see that they're interested.

S: You're right! Finally, any advice that you'd give to young people about travel?

B: First of all, plan where, when and how to go. Collect a lot of information about the place. Plan when your trip will be, how much it will cost each day. Find out how to travel around the country, what the food is like and about the season - will it be winter or spring? And, of course, travel with Hostelling International! After all, we have more than 90 years' experience. We have the best places to stay in, and we can give you advice about the interesting things to go and see. We'll take care of you in a very responsible way. You'll have a lot of fun, and we'll help you to make your travel dreams come true!

S: Thanks very much, Beatriz. I'm sure you'll have a lot of new visitors now!

